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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,278	11/17/2003	Ran J. Flam	sparta01.019	4594

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EXAMINER

CRIBBS, MALCOLM D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2115

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/715,278	Applicant(s) FLAM ET AL.	
	Examiner Malcolm D. Cribbs	Art Unit 2115	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-26 are presented for examination.

5 ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

10 (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15 **Claims 1-26** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted Prior Art [AAPA] in view of Anonsen [Publication No. US 2004/0015508] and further in view of Dennis [US Patent No. 6,792,556].

As per claim 1, AAPA teach the invention, comprising:
making second configuration tables [Page 4 lines 7-9]; and
20 using the second configuration tables to modify the first configuration tables [Page 4 lines 7-9].

AAPA do not teach the method of determining whether the first configuration tables have changed. Specifically, AAPA teach the method of keeping the system
25 going while transitioning from one system to another wherein the changes made during this transition are lost. However, AAPA fails to detail the method of determining

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whether the tables still define the original so important data are not lost. A routineer in the art would have been motivated to look for a teaching for the possible method of retaining any changes made during a transition from an original table to an updated table.

5

Anonsen teaches another method of transitioning from an original table to an updated table while also checking for changes so as to not erase important changes. Anonsen teaches a method of creating a copy of an initial table, then updating the table; however before the table is updated with the new updated table the initial table is compared with the copy to determine if the tables match wherein if the tables do not match it is determined that a change has occurred and if the tables do match no change has occurred and the table is updated [Fig. 3, method 1000; Col Pages 4-5, [[0044]-[0046]]. In summary, Anonsen teaches a method of not erasing important changes by determining if the copy still defines the original.

15

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of AAPA and Anonsen, which are analogous art, because they both teach a method of updating tables while using a second table for updating. Anonsen covers the deficiency of AAPA by teaching the detail of having the option to save or discard any changes made if it is determined that the tables do not match indicating a change has occurred.

20

AAPA and Anonsen do not teach the method of making a snapshot of the first system to determine if the system has changed. Specifically, Anonsen teach the method of making a copy of the initial tables to determine if a change has been made, and updating to the updated table if its determined there has not been a change.

- 5 However, Anonsen fails to detail a method of determining whether a change has occurred by creating a snapshot. A routineer in the art would have been motivated to look for a teaching for the possible method of comparing data using a snapshot.

- 10 Dennis teaches another method of determining whether the copy still defines the current system. Dennis teaches a method of making a snapshot of the current system wherein it is determined whether the current system still matches the snapshot. When there is a change to the current system, the user is prompted that there has been a change and to input a decision to run the current modified system or to run the copy [Col 9 lines 44-47 and Col 10 lines 21-28].

- 15
- It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of AAPA and Anonsen with Dennis, which are analogous art, because they teach a method of determining whether changes have been made to initial data using a previously made copy. Dennis covers the deficiency of AAPA and Anonsen by
- 20 teaching the detail comparing information using a snapshot copy with an added benefit of prompting a user to determine whether to use the first system that has currently changed or to use the snapshot.

As per claim 2-3, and 5-6, Dennis teaches a method of using a snapshot to make a determination.

As per claim 4, AAPA teaches the invention of making and modifying a copy
5 [Page 4 lines 7-9].

As per claims 7-9, it is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art as proposed by AAPA [Page 3 lines 15-21 and Page 4 lines 7-14].

10 **As per claims 10, 12-14, and 16,** Dennis teaches a method of allowing a user to control the determination of updating or discarding the changes [Fig. 4 step 414].

As per claim 11, AAPA teaches the invention of modifying the first tables with the second while it is obvious to modify data tables in various ways including record by
15 record [Page 4 lines 7-9].

As per claim 17, AAPA teaches the invention of including configuration tracking tables Page 3 lines 15-29].

20 **As per claims 19-25,** it is directed to the apparatus to implement the method of steps as set forth in claims 1-18. Therefore, it is rejected for the same basis as set forth hereinabove.

As per claim 26, it is directed to a storage device to implement the method of steps as set forth in claims 1-18. Therefore, it is rejected for the same basis as set forth hereinabove.

5

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Malcolm D. Cribbs whose telephone number is 571-272-5689. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-430PM.

10 If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Malcolm D Cribbs


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Examiner
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July 20, 2006



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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